Evolve

By Jonathan Elliott

Scene 1. Interior. Night. Del Amo Hospital. There is a flashlight through the window of a door. Johnny is in bed in the darkness as the nurse outside searches with the light and Speaks to him through the door.

Nurse
Mr. Elliott are you alright?

Johnny
Yes. I'm fine.

Cut to:

Scene 2. Morning. Credits read. "Koreatown. Los Angeles, California.
Three Years Earlier" Interior. Office. Johnny enters the building and Manuel is at the Guard Station listening to Spainish music.

Johnny
Good morning Manuel.
I like the Spainish music.

Manuel
Yes. Very romantic.
But I'm not Spainish.
I'm from Cuba. You know
Where that is?

Johnny
Yeah. My Dad played Jazz
There in the fifties. After
He left, the place went crazy.

Manuel
I know. Me too. I came to America
After that. It was crazy.

Johnny
Well, have a good day.

Manuel
Wait a minute. What are you doing?

Johnny
What do you mean?

Manuel
What do you do up there?

Johnny
Oh, I see. I'm a talent agent.

Manuel
What?

Johnny
Yeah. I put people in commercials.
Television and film too.

Manuel (leaning back in his chair)
You mean you can take my picture
And put me on television?

Johnny
Yeah.

Manuel
How do you do it?

Johnny
I'll come down with my camera.
Then I take your picture and send it out.

Manuel
O.K.

Johnny
Talk to you later.

Manuel
O.K. see you later.

Johnny walks to elevator and takes it up.

Cut to: Elevator door opens and he enters the 27th floor. Jorlynn the Spainish secretary Is answering calls and Dr. Hall crosses the lobby with a clipboard.

Johnny
Goodmorning. I'm Jonathan.
This is my first day. I just
Wanted to introduce myself.

Jorlynn waves and smiles.

Dr. Hall
Good morning.

Johnny
Who are you?

Dr. Hall
I'm Dr. Hall, a psychologist on the
Floor.

Johnny
I never ordered a Doctor.

Dr. Hall
I work here a few times a work
With juveniles and social delinquents.

Johnny enters his office with a key.

Johnny
Great. I've been here three minutes and I'm
A social deviant. Here we go.

He puts in a c.d.

David Essex is singing "Rock on"
There is a stunning view of Los Angeles from Here. Johnny pulls out a roll of butcher paper and cuts a three feet slice of paper and tapes it to the wall and opens a new box of colored pencils and starts to draw the view. There are rows of shelves and boxes of Files. Things are perfectly organized. There is a glass table with an orchid and a laptop computer. There is a fax machine spewing out commercial breakdowns and Johnny Johnny reaches down suddenly as a new one comes off the machine and the bell RINGS. He looks over the documents and notices something wrong. He picks up the phone and dials.

V.O "Breakdown services, good morning"

Johnny
Hey, is Jessie there?

V.O. "Not yet"
Johnny
Who is this?

v.o. "Andy"

Johnny
Andy, I just got number fifteen and
I see one through six but I'm missing
Nine in between.

v.o. "What do you want us to do?"

Johnny
Can you retransmit?

v.o. "Not till Jessie gets here.."

Johnny
Alright.

He hangs up and goes back to the wire transmissions. He starts to pull pictures.

Johnny
Hmm. 38-45 Brown hair.
Looks like the Guy from
Home Improvement..."
Who the hell is that....

He keeps pulling pictures. The phone rings.

Johnny
Evolve.

(v.o.) "Is this a talent agency?"

Yes.

(v.o) "Then why didn't you say so stupid..."

Johnny
I have news for you honey…

(v.o) "What's that?"

Johnny
You're fired.

(v.o) giggling. "You're funny."

Johnny
Really.

(v.o) "Yeah. What do you look like.?"

Johnny
Oh, I don't know. Brown hair. Brown eyes.
Tall. A little skinny."

(v.o) "Tall. I like tall men."

Johnny
Really. What do you look like?

(v.o) "I'm a little short. But I have a good body."

Johnny
Wow. Tell me more.."

(v.o) "You're silly. Don't you even want to know
who this is…"

Johnny
Not if you have a good body.

(v.o) "Stop it. Anyway… This is Jenny from Cathi
Carlton's Office calling with times for Budweiser.."

Johnny (sitting at the computer)
O.K. I'm all strapped in. Shoot.

(v.o) "10:30 Tad Najolski and 1:00 Val Lapeen.
Casual. Business."

Johnny
That's Chad Nadolski and Val Lapin.

(v.o) "Whatever..."

Johnny
Thanks.

(v.o) "Talk to you later..."

Johnny goes back to the drawing. Several hours go by quickly and we watch the skyline Develop on the page. Camera pans to the window and Mike Merrins is watching outside.

Mike (w/ southern accent)
And if you want I can do a Southern
Accent like Deniro in Capefear. I
Got no problems with that.

Johnny
I looked at your resume the other day.
I didn't realize you were a dancer.

Mike
Yeah. In New York.

Johnny
Funny I can't imagine you in tights.
Anyway, here's your check Mike.
$2,500.00 less commissions. They
paid you for two sessions.

Mike
You're kidding?

Johnny
No.

Mike
I only worked one day. How did that happen?

Johnny
You recorded two ads. They paid you for both.

Mike
That much?

Johnny
Yeah. It was 1,250.00 per session.

Mike
Wow. That'll help. Thanks.

Johnny
Nah.. Thank you. Who knows.
If we keep going like this I might
Make the rent.

Mike
You know my Dad showed up for
Work yesterday and they threw
Him off the board after 28 years.

Johnny
Did they give him a reason.

Mike
They left a pink slip on his desk
With a note. Can you imagine?

Johnny
It's all this business Mike. I'm sorry.

Mike
It's not your fault.

Johnny
I don't know that. If that's true, I mean.

Mike
Don't worry man. You've done a good job.
Some of us appreciate your work.

Johnny
Ahh hell. You're gonna make me cry.
Get out of here.

Mike
Let me buy you a drink later.

Johnny
I don't know. I'm not supposed
To date the clients you know.
If you're sure I won't take advantage of you..

Mike
Man I'd kick you ass. Call me later.
You have my cell phone.

Johnny
Yeah. I can't make promises though.
You know what a flake I am.

Mike
That's for sure.

Mike leaves. Johnny starts putting more pictures together.

Phone rings.

Johnny
Evolve

Cathy
Is this Evolve?

Johnny
It is...."

Cathy
They like Val Lappen for Budweiser.
They want to see him tomorrow for a
Callback. 12:30. Call me to confirm o.k?

Johnny
Yeah. Thanks.

Johnny dials.

Johnny
Val?

Val
Yeah.

Johnny
Val it's Johnny. You'll never believe it,
they want to see you for a callback tomorrow
for Budweiser. It's a superbowl spot.
Can you believe it?

Val
Johnny. I'm afraid you're not going to believe it.

Johnny
What?

Val
I hit my head in the shower. I don't think
I can make it.

Johnny
Jesus. Really?

Val
I'm serious man. It's killing me.

Johnny
Man it's a callback for the superbowl.
Can you put some ice on it and get there?

Val
Yeah. But I can't make promises.

Johnny
Promise me Val. Promise me.

Val
O.K. but I can't be a hundred percent.

Johnny
Man, just do your best o.k?

Val
O.K.

Johnny hangs up and redials.

Cathy
Cathy here.

Johnny
Val is good for the time.

Cathy
What time?

Johnny
12:30

Cathy
Thanks hon.

The sun sinks below the skyline and Johnny puts on a new c.d. Tony Bennett's "The Good Life" The pizza guy arrives.

Pizzaguy
2700?

Johnny
Yeah. Is that the chicken parmagiana?

Pizzaguy
Yeah.

Johnny
You forgot the Coke.

Pizzaguy
Sorry.

Johnny
Go get it. What are you
Trying to do. Give me a nervous
Breakdown?

Pizzaguy
I'll be right back.

Johnny
Thanks dude. Here's a
Few dollars for the tip too.

Pizzaguy
Thanks.

Enter Mike, the Korean lawyer from down the hall.

Mike
Wow man. That blonde at lunchtime.
She was really cute.

Johnny
They're all cute Mike. This is
Television.

Mike
I'm in the wrong job.

Johnny
That's for sure.

Mike
Can I come in?

Johnny
Of course. I'm just
Finishing up for the night. What's your name?

Mike (looking around at the women on the wall)
I'm Mike. You ever go out with any of them?

Johnny
Naw. I'm Johnny.

Mike
Why not?

Johnny
Too complicated.

Mike
You're smart.

Johnny
Yeah. It would give you too much
Work.

Mike (laughing)
Hey, I could use it.

Johnny
You got any good cases?

Mike
One guy. Got busted
Selling drugs at a
Concert in San Bernardino.
Would you believe it?
We think the Sheriff's in.

Johnny
Jesus. Really.

Mike
Yeah. I'm afraid it get's
Worse.

Johnny
What do you mean?

Mike
Oh, I don't want to talk
About it. It's too late.

Johnny
Yeah. See you tomorrow.

Mike
I'll be in Court.

Johnny
Well, soon then.

Mike
Yeah, good night.

Johnny hits the lights and the vast LA skyline at night looks beautiful.
He takes a second to look at it and closes the door.
Interior. Hallway. Joe, the Phillipino lawyer is wrapping a present at
The front desk.

Johnny
Goodnight.

Joe
Goodnight.

Interior. The elevator waiting area. Johnny is waiting for the elevator and a
Drop dead gorgeous Korean woman comes down the hallway and looks at him
For a moment before the elevator door opens and Johnny gets in.

Interior. Lobby. Night.

Johnny
Goodnight Manuel.

Manuel
Hey what happened?

Johnny
What do you mean?

Manuel
You were going to take my picture.

Johnny
Sorry. I had a long day. I forgot
To bring my camera down.
Maybe tomorrow.

Manuel
Manana then.

Johnny
O.K.

Johnny puts the packages on the desk.

Johnny
A messenger will be here
In about five minutes to grab these.

Manuel
O.k.

Johnny steps out. Exterior. Some Korean attorney's are smoking and talking outside. A radio is playing in the lobby "The Road to Shambala" Johnny checks his watch And starts to run towards the train.

Exterior. Night. Trainstation. Wilshire and Vermont. Johnny is checking through His pants and counts a dollar thirty five and grabs a ticket. He puts it in his Pocket and heads towards the train. There is a director and floodlights near the stairway And they are filming a jogger who runs by. Johnny heads down the escalator and Waits for the train. He sits on a bench and there is an old Irishman sitting next to him.

Johnny
How are you tonight?

Chuck
Alright.

Johnny
What's your name.

Chuck
Chuck.

Johnny
What do you do?

Chuck
I'm an actor.

Johnny
Really? Been working lately?

Chuck
Just came from a meeting at
The screen actor's guild?

Johnny
Oh yeah.

Chuck
Yeah. Looks like
They are going to strike.

Johnny
Man.

The train comes.

Johnny
If you need any help give me a call.

Gives him a card. Gets on the train.

Interior. Train. Police arrive.

Policeman #1
Can I see your ticket.

Johnny (checks his pockets)
You know… I can't find it…

Policeman #2
What happened?

Johnny
I don't know. I bought one at
Vermont Station and now I can't
Find it.

Policeman #1
Well, you know what this mean?

Johnny
You have to write me a ticket?

Policeman #2
Exactly.

Johnny
Will it be expensive?

Policeman #1
You have to find out
When you get to court.

Johnny
Where is that?

Policeman #2
It says at the bottom of
The ticket there.

Johnny
Thanks I guess. Have a good night.

Policeman #1
Try to have your ticket next time.

Johnny
Right.

Cut to:

Exterior. Hollywood Blvd. Night. Johnny a clown blowing up balloons and
A group of breakdancers spinning to hip hop. He walks up Highland
And makes a right on Franklin Avenue, walks into his apartment.

Interior. Door Opens. The Hollywood Apartment. Johnny throws his
Jacket on the floor and the ticket falls out next to it.

Johnny
Crap.

He feeds the fish and adjusts the gear of his guitar and turns on the
Six track mixer and works on a song. He smokes a cigarette
And hears some noise in the hallway. (v.o) "Alright, talk to you later..."
He goes out to the hallway and sees Stevie closing his door.

Johnny
You coming or going?

Stevie
I'm here.

Johnny
Can I come over for a minute?

Stevie
Bring it.

Johnny
Can you do ten?

Stevie
Sure thing buddy.

He weighs some pot.

Johnny
Thanks.

Johnny returns home. Smokes a joint. Puts on the headphones and Listens to the new track.

Interior. The Powerhouse Bar. Night. Hollywood and Highland. Joe Powers is tending the bar.

Joe
What'll you have?

Johnny
Just a beer on tap?

Joe
Sure thing.

Johnny
Somebody told me
You fought in World War II.
Is that true?

Joe
Yes sir. Marines. Landed
At Normandy Beach.

Johnny
That's funny.

Joe
Why is that funny?

Johnny
It's just... that's the name
Of the street I work on.

Joe
Hmmm.

Johnny
Anything you want to tell
Me about it?

Joe
Well, in the beginning you
Have to remember, we conquered
The Germans after Normandy
And were known as the liberators.
When we came into Paris the
Women were really friendly to us
But some of the soldiers took
Advantage and it led to conflicts.

Johnny
Wow. Sounds like my job.

Joe
Enjoy.

Johnny
Thanks.

Joe "Yeah that it was the liberation of Paris that was the invasion of Europe.

Johnny starts to drink and a couple of Italian men in suits walk in and order some Harder liquor. One is Mike and the other is Joe, from New Jersey. Mike Sings to a Frank Sinatra song "The Summer Wind"

Johnny (claps)
You are very talented.

Mike
Hey, thanks.

Johnny
What's your name?

Mike
Mike.

Johnny
You got an agent?

Mike
Why do you ask?

Johnny
That's what I do.

Mike
Oh yeah. That's nice.
Maybe give me your card
Or something and I'll
Give you a call.

Johnny
Don't give me a call.
Just stop by.

Mike
Hey I see what you mean.
That's nice of you. Thanks.
This is my friend Joe.

Johnny
Hey Joe.

Joe (nods)

Johnny
Well, have a good night guys.
I'm not a big drinker.

Interior. The Office. Morning. Mary is nearly pushing eighty with lipstick painted On her face, overdone. Holding flowers. She is singing.

Mary
Happy birthday Mr. President
Happy Birthday to you....
You want me to do another one?

Johnny
Absolutely.

Mary
Fixodent makes my dentures
Alive with color. Nothing else
In the world makes me feel better
Then clean dentures.

Johnny
You're the best Mary. I always
Said, you're the best.

Mary
You mean it Johnny? I brought
These flowers for you. You know
I love you Johnny. You're the
Only agent who ever gave me
A chance in this business.

Johnny
Well you have many more chances to
Come doll and don't you forget it.
You're hilarious Mary. Now get out
Of here I have to work.

Mary
O.K. Johnny. Can I come by tomorrow
And see you.

Johnny
No. Come Thursday. Make it easy on
Me will you hon?

Mary
Sure thing doll. You know I love you.
Don't you Johnny?

Johnny
I love you too Mary. Now get out
Of here and let me do some work.

Mary
OK Johnny. See you Thursday.

Johnny
Thursday Mary. Bye now.

Mary
By.

Phone rings.

Johnny
Evolve. Can I help you.

v.o "Yes, it's Sarah from Ross Lacy's office
with times for Wedsnesday on
Chevrolet."

Johnny
Go ahead.

v.o "2:00 Angela Hoover, casual"

Johnny
I thought you said times?

v.o. "What do you mean?"

Johnny
That's one. Hell, Danny gets a dozen.
I've seen it. You guys are killing me.

v.o "I don't understand"

Johnny
Just thank Ross for me. Tell him
I appreciate all the business.

(v.o) (laughing) Thanks.

Pizza guy arrives.

Pizzaguy
Pizza.

Johnny
Man. You saved me.
I was just about to jump.
Did you bring the parmesan?

Pizzaguy
Yeah. There's four of em.

Johnny (pays him)
You guys rock.

Pizzaguy
Thank you.

Pizzaman leaves. Knock on the door.

Angela
Knock knock knock.

Johnny
Who's there?

Angela
You're funniest client.

Johnny
My funniest client just left.
I still love you though.

Angela
Uh. You're breaking my heart.

Johnny
That's my job. It's to make you
A better actress. If I build you
Up too much your head will get
To big and you'll be useless to me.

Angela
Very clever.

Johnny
Are those the new pictures.

Angela
They are. Please don't file
Them on the floor like you
Did last time.

Johnny
Angela. It was just so I could
Reach them faster. You're
My number one. You know that.

Angela (fake crying)
I know. I'm just being
Oversensitive.

Johnny
Well, work on it. I have a call
For you tomorrow.

Angela
Really?

Johnny
No, I'm lying.

Angela
Why?

Johnny
No. I'm not lying. It's Chevy.
They want you dressed like a
Prostitute. I'm just kidding.
The call is business casual,
I think.

Angela
You think? Are you sure?
Last time you sent me in
As a housewife and the
Call was for pajamas.
There was a thousand girls in
The hallway dressed in nighties
And I'm in bluejeans.
It was the worst day of my life.

Johnny (dialing)
You are so dramatic.
Sarah, what is the dress on that?

v.o "business casual"

Johnny
Business casual. like a skirt, a pencil skirt.

Angela
Is that a nice skirt and a blouse
Or a khakis and a t shirt?

Johnny
Use your imagination. whatever you want to do, do it.

Angela
Ughh. You're not very much
Help.

Johnny
You guys are killing me.
No wonder Thalberg was
Dead at 38.

Angela
Alright. I'll get out of
Your way, Mr. Agent.

Johnny
Thanks hon. Can you close the door.

Angela
Ta...

Johnny looks at the pictures on the table and picks one up and smiles. He stands up to the file drawer and puts them away. Everything Is organized alphabetically in pendaflex folders. There is a knock at the Door.

Johnny
Come in?

Dr. Hall
Have some time?

Johnny
Sure. What's up Doc?

Dr. Hall (looking around)
So.... What do you do in here?

Johnny
I'm a talent agent.

Dr. Hall
Really. I have three beautiful
Little girls. Think you can
Get them any work?

Johnny
Only if you're willing to sell em'.

Dr. Hall
What does it take?

Johnny
You get there pictures done and
I send them out.

Dr. Hall
Just like that? That easy?

Johnny
Yeah.

Dr. Hall.
I'm serious. They are really beautiful.

Johnny
Well I'm sure they'll work in that
Case.

Dr. Hall
That's funny.

Johnny
Why?

Dr. Hall
I don't know. It just is.

Johnny
Listen, I'd love to
Talk all day, but I
~~Got to get to work.~~ But I got work to do.

Dr. Hall
Don't let me keep you.

Johnny
Thanks.

Dr. Hall leaves.

There is a knock on the door.

Johnny (still pulling pictures)
Come in.

Enter Svelina. Looking incredibly sexy and with her baby.

Svelina
Hello.

Johnny
Hello. Do I know you?

Svelina
I'm Svelina Kiddess from
Bulgaria. A friend sent me
Over from the theatre class
I'm in.

Johnny
Let me just finish this package and
I'll be right with you. Have a seat .
Please.

Johnny finishes his work, throws the package into a basket and
Has a seat.

Johnny
Now, let's see..

He starts going through her pictures as she talks.

Svelina
Technically, I can't work yet
Because I'm not a citizen.
But a friend is putting together
A fake production contract
Together for me so I can
Prove to the government
My status here and I need
Your help to approve it.
Can you do it....

The baby is crying now..

Johnny
Boy, when they put you
In a position.... They
Put you in a position...

Svelina
I don't understand...

Johnny (tapping his pencil)

Johnny
Anything I can do...

Svelina
Thank you.

Johnny
Maybe leave me
Some pictures for
The time being.

Svelina
But I can't work yet.

Johnny
Honey, as long as we're breaking
The rules we might as well get started.

Svelina
You're funny. Thanks.

Interior. The Rodeo. A Mexican Bar. Afternoon. Gabriella is tending the bar and There are a group of guys playing pool. Gabriella is watching a soap opera.

Johnny
Cerveza.

Gabriella
One beer.

Johnny
Thanks.

He drinks slowly and looks at the characters at the bar. All are speaking Spainish. He walks out after finishing his beer.

Interior. Elevator opens to the lobby of the 27th floor. Johnny walks down the hall to the wrong corner. A door reads "Metcapital"

Johnny
Jesus. Wrong way.

He turns around and walks towards his office (talking to himself)

Johnny
Now they're following me.
They probably moved in
Yesterday. I should
Check the logs but they'd
Change them.

Enters his office and the phone rings.

Johnny
Evolve.

v.o. "can you take some times for tomorrow"

Johnny (sits at the computer)
No. I'm drunk. Just kidding. Go ahead.

v.o. (five o'clock for lisa fields, Microsoft...
brett pedigo, dan Sheridan, Richard
Bruehl, Alex Mann)

Johnny (typing)
Wow. Somebody loves me. Thanks.

v.o. (business casual, khakis or blue jeans)

Johnny goes back to pulling pictures.
Knock at the door. It is Jenny, the Korean floor manager.

Jenny (gives him an envelope)
Hi there.

Johnny (still pulling pictures)
What's up?

Jenny
Just bringing you the statement
For the rent.

Johnny
Great. Thanks hon.

Jenny
This is my last day.

Johnny
Really, what happened?

Jenny
Nothing. I'm going to
Work for a clothing
Designer.

Johnny
Wow.
Which one?

Jenny
I can't say.

Johnny
Well good luck.
I wish you all the best.
You've been very nice.
Except when you bring me rent
Statements.

Jenny
I'll come by from time to time
And say hello.

Johnny
Good. Otherwise we'll miss you.

Jenny (bows and leaves)
Thanks.

Phone rings.

Johnny
Evolve
v.o. "You know those Microsoft times?"

Johnny
Yeah? You want to add some?

v.o. "No it's been cancelled. Until further notice...."

Johnny
Jesus. You're kidding. What happened?

v.o. "Nobody knows"

Johnny hangs up and closes the door and puts on some music.... Betty Blue... Starts to smoke a cigarette. Staring out the window he watches the sun sink. Departs with packages.

Interior. Office . Morning. Johnny opens the door and there is a white paper On the floor. He opens it and reads....

"Notice : Section 1200.01 prohibits smoking in the building and any tenant caught smoking on the premises is subject to a $2,500.00 fine and eviction..."

Johnny
Wow. Good morning.

Phone rings:

Johnny
Evolve

v.o. " hey this is Jacob from Funky Ferrets"

Johnny
I thought you were Monkey Brothers...

v.o. "yeah, we took some time off and decided to go into directing and producing. Now we're back.. Listen. Is Ned Edmunds a good drummer."

Johnny
Of course. He toured with Jimi Hendrix.

v.o. "you're joking"

Johnny
Yeah.

v.o. "well get him in here at 4:00
so we can see him for
Dunkin Doughnuts.."

Johnny
How do you want him?

v.o. "casual"

Johnny
Casual it is. Thanks man.

He is already gone. Johnny checks the wires and picks up the phone with Excitement.

Johnny
This is perfect for him... wow..

v.o "Steve Erdeck casting.."

Johnny
Is Steve there?

Kevin
Sorry, he's in session.
What can I do for you?

Johnny
It says you need a 12-14 year old
Black kid for Burger king who
Plays music?

Kevin
Who do you got.

Johnny
I swear this kid is the next Miles Davis.

Kevin
Serious?

Johnny
Plays Ellington.

v.o. "three o'clock, get him in here"

Johnny
Thanks. What's your name?

v.o "Keith"

Johnny
You sound very nice. Thanks Keith.

v.o. "You're welcome. Just make sure he's on time"

Johnny
He'll be there..

Johnny hangs up the phone and redials ....

Johnny
Glenda... I have a great
Call for your boy....
It's a burger king spot
And they want him today..
Can you make it..."

v.o. "hell yeah..."

Fade out....

Interior. Powerhouse bar. There is a new bartender.

Johnny
Where's Joe?

S.J.
He sold the place.

Johnny
What do you mean he
Sold the place. I
Talked to him last week..

S.J.
Ahh. Somebody stole a hundred
Dollars out of the till and
He retired I guess.

Johnny
Where you from?

S.J.
Galvaston Texas.

Johnny
What's you name?

S.J.
I'm S.J.

Johnny
Nice to meet you.
Can I get a beer?

S.J.
What kind?

Johnny
Whatever's on tap.

S.J.
One fifty.

Johnny
Still the cheapest beer
In town. I'm sad though.
Joe was great.

S.J.
Yeah, nice man.

Johnny
Where did he go?

S.J.
Up north I heard
He has a farm.

Evolve
(Episode II)

by Jonathan Elliott

Interior. Night. Powerhouse Bar.
Johnny is drinking and sitting on the stool talking when
A group of actors walk in and order drinks. One of the
Actors approaches.

J.W.
Nice shoes.

Johnny
You like them?

J.W.
Where are they from?

Johnny
I don't know. Actually,
They were my father's.

He takes one off and turns it over.

Johnny
Looks like Belgium.

J.W.
They are beautiful.

Johnny
You like 'em. Really?

J.W.
Great craftsmanship.

Johnny
Thanks. You an actor
With the company?

J.W.
Yeah. I go to Stella Adler
Around the corner.

Johnny
What year are you in?

J.W.
This is my first.

Johnny
What are you guys working on?

J.W.
Scenes from a Midsummer Night's Dream.

Johnny
Shakespeare?

J.W.
You know.

Johnny
I'm familiar with his work.
I don't know the plot.

J.W.
Really nice shoes…

He walks away. Johnny heads over to the bar and sits next to a hippy looking guy with long hair beating on the table like he's playing the drums.

Johnny
Man where have you been?

Robert
Huh?

Johnny
You look like a good drummer.

Robert
Nah. Just faking it. I play
With myself. That's about it.

Johnny
You're funny.

Robert
Nah.. Just drinking too much.

Johnny
What do you do?

Robert
When I'm not here you mean?

Johnny
Yeah.

Robert
Oh I'm a receptionist for a
Bunch of perverts who
Take pictures of actors
In Hollywood.

Johnny
Really? I used to do that.

Robert
It's a really dirty business.

Johnny
I know.

Robert
You don't know the half of it.

Johnny
I'm sure.

Johnny walks over to the Jukebox and puts in a dollar.
Tonny Bennett begins "The Good Life.." Johnny walks out.

Interior. Hollywood Apartment. Night. Johnny enters and sits on the small couch and Pours from a bottle of open wine and reaches for the phone. He checks his messages And listens "Johnny… it's Tanya call me…" He dials.

Johnny
Hey. What's going on?

Tanya
Johnny? Is that you?

Johnny
In the fresh.

Tanya
You sound sad Johnny.

Johnny
I was trying to be funny.

Tanya.
Funny. Funny is come over
And bring me a joint Johnny.

Johnny
Now.

Tanya
Right now. If you wait another
Minute I'll never forgive you.

Johnny
Alright.

He hangs up, grabs his keys and a bag of grass and a jacket and turns off the lights and Goes.

Interior. Tanya's apartment down the street. Night.

Johnny (knocking)
Hello.

Tanya
Who is there?

Johnny
It's Johnny. You know
Who it is.

Tanya (opening the door, lights a cigarette)
You never know. You could
Be some sort of maniac killer
Stalking me.

wet, in a white robe from the shower

Johnny
Oh you heard that one too?

Tanya
Didn't everybody?

Johnny
You invited me over, remember?

Tanya
What can I tell you.
I'm a sadist. (laughing)

Johnny (walks around)
Beautiful place.

There is a half of a Roman Column on the floor as a stool, white curtains, Blowing with the wind, a bamboo tree, a glass table. The small kitchen has Hanging bottles of Chianti. She is boiling water. Johnny sees the view of The Park outside.

Johnny
It's wonderful.

Tanya
Want some coffee? I'm making coffee.

Johnny walks around and sees a poster of "Bound" near the shower.

Johnny
No thanks. You have a poster of my Cousin Gina.

Tanya
I'll turn the water off then.
That's your Cousin? She's a fox.
If you introduce me to your
Cousin I might have sex with you.

Johnny
You're kidding.

Tanya
Honey I'd have sex with you and
Give you Linda.

Johnny
I'll ask.

Tanya
Is she a lesbian?

Johnny
I don't know. It's not
The sort of thing I
Ask her when I see her
At Yom Kippur.

Tanya
Well, work on it.

The phone rings.

Tanya
Really. You're kidding.
When is this? What's
The occasion. He just
Wants me. That's it.
Well sure I'll do it.
You know I can't turn down
Money right now. I'm broke.
Call me in the morning huh? I have
Company.

She hangs up.

Johnny
What was that?

Tanya
Mick Jagger wants to pay me $3500
To dance naked on a table for him
In Vegas.

Johnny
You know Mick?

Tanya
Honey. I know everyone.
I'm Holly GoLightly, only
The Latin Version.

Johnny comes closer to her. She's in a robe, naked. He looks at her body. She's wet from the shower, drying her hair.

Johnny
You do resemble Audrey Hepburn

Tanya
You mean that?

Johnny
Sure I do. I wouldn't
Just say it.

Tanya
Well try not to stand so
Close, people might wonder
What's going on.

Johnny
What is going on?

Tanya
We're getting high remember?

Johnny
Oh yeah.

He lights a joint and sits on the stool.

Tanya
Are you going to pass that or
Play the role of Humphrey Bogart
Tonight? / Johnny ?.

Johnny
God you're rough.

Tanya
You can sleep on the floor
If you want. Here's a blanket.

She climbs into bed.

Tanya
But don't try anything
Or I'll cap your ass.

Johnny
I won't. Count on it.

Tanya
I trust you Johnny.
If I didn't you wouldn't be here.
Remember that.

Johnny
Thanks. I appreciate that.
Goodnight.

Tanya
Goodnight.

Johnny awakens in the middle of the night and Tanya is at the window, smoking a cigarette, shaking.

Johnny
What's a matter?

Tanya
I can't sleep.

Johnny
Why not?

Tanya
I just got this feeling.
The wind told me something.

Johnny
What did it say?

Tanya
That cop has been across the
Street all night watching me.

Johnny
Tanya, how much cocaine did you
Do tonight?

Tanya
I don't know Johnny. Not enough.

Johnny
Well try and get some sleep.

Tanya
All right. It won't work I tell ya.

Johnny
Because you did too much blow.
Just try Tanya. Goodnight.

Tanya
Goodnight Johnny.

Interior. Morning. Johnny gets off the floor and ties his shoes. Tanya comes in with coffee.

Tanya
You want to order some breakfast?

Johnny
Yeah. I don't have any money though.

Tanya
Well I'll call the Hamlet and
You pick some up for me will ya?

Johnny
Anything else?

Tanya
A pack of cigarettes.

Johnny
And?

Tanya
Some candy.

Johnny
You got it.

(she gives him money)

Tanya
Just buzz me when you
Want to come back up.

Johnny
All right.

Johnny leaves.

Exterior. Hollywood Blvd. Interior. Hamburger Hamlet. Johnny picks up the food ready to go. Exterior. Gas station. He buys the candy and cigarettes and returns To her apartment. Rings the buzzer.

Tanya
Johnny?

Johnny
Yeah.

Tanya
That was fast.

She buzzes and he goes back up.

Tanya
Is it still hot?

Johnny
What?

Tanya
The pancakes. ?

Johnny
Warm I think. A little warm.

Tanya
That's fine. Just set it over there.
Did you bring the cigarettes?

Johnny
Yeah. You want the cigarettes
First?

Tanya
What can I tell you I'm a nervous wreck.

Johnny
Why?

Tanya
I'm broke Johnny. The Las Vegas
Job isn't until next month and
I have to get through this one.

Johnny
Jeez. I wish I could help.

Tanya
Me too.

Johnny
All right. I'm going to
Get going.

Tanya
Thanks Johnny.

Interior. Afternoon. Johnny's Hollywood Apartment. He clicks on the Tape machine and records, playing guitar over an older piano track. The door opens. Ronnie enters with a boo box radio playing Black Sabbath.

Ronnie
Hey man.

Johnny
Man, this is my apartment.
You could have at least knocked.

Ronnie
Sorry man. I heard you
Playing and the door was opened.

Johnny
It's rude Ronnie. Rude
You know that word. Rude.

Ronnie
Man, why you freaking on me.
He turns up the radio.

Black Sabbath blasting very loud

Johnny
The volume Ronnie.

Ronnie
Huh?

Johnny (gesturing with his hand,)
Down.

Ronnie
Man. I come over to smoke some
Good kind with you and
You get all upset.

Johnny
Yeah, it helps make me look great.
Look great. You guys bring it over
So you can scream about it.
Great.

Ronnie
Sorry man. You don't blame me do you?

Johnny
No Ronnie. You're still my
Friend. If it wasn't you it would
Be Chuck or Ray or somebody else.

Ronnie (laughing)
Hee hee. That's true.

Johnny
You guys are too much man.

Ronnie breaks out the bud on the table and Johnny goes over to the sink to wash A glass.

Ronnie
Let me just roll it up.

Johnny
You need a bullhorn or anything.

Ronnie
Huh?

Johnny
Can I get you a soda or something?

Ronnie
Yeah man. What do you got?

Johnny
Coke. Rootbeer.

Ronnie
Oh wow. Give me a Coke.
Is it cold?

Johnny
I got ice.

Ronnie (finishes rolling)
Oh yeah man.. with the ice…
Wow man… is this your guitar?
Let me just see it a second.

Johnny
Yeah. Don't break it.

Ronnie
I won't

Ronnie starts to play.

Johnny
You're a genius Ronnie. A genius.

Ronnie
You think so?

Johnny
One day. The world will know.
I'll tell them. I promise.

Ronnie
Man… now you're too much…

Johnny
You think so?
Give me the guitar back…

Ronnie
Man, you're a nut.

Johnny
Yeah… give me it back…

Dom enters.

Dominiq
What up boy…

Johnny
How did you get in?

Dominic
I came up with some cutie.
Man boy....

Johnny
Was she cute?

Dominic
Man.. I'm telling you.

Johnny
Ronnie this is the Sheik.

Ronnie
Man that's not your name.
You know I don't like niggers.

Johnny
Stop it.

Ronnie
I'm just kidding.

Johnny
You're profound Ronnie.
Profound. Only trouble is
You're making me sick now.

Ronnie
I'm just kidding man.
Relax.

Johnny
Man, Ronnie. You just get
To me with that stuff.
That's all.

Ronnie
All right. Forget it.

Johnny
Yeah, forget it.

Dominic
What's up boy?

Johnny
Not much.

Dominic
I just got out of prison.

Johnny
What for?

Dominic
Man, it's a long story.

Johnny
Why did you have to tell me that.

Dominic
Man, you know I tell you everything.

Johnny
It's against the law for me to hire
A felon. Man, if you hadn't of
Told me I could have offered
You a job. This bums me out Dom.

Dominic
It doesn't matter.

Johnny
Sure it matters.

Dominic
Nah... man I'll figure it out.
Can I crash here for awhile.

Johnny
Hell , I just got started with
This Dom. Can't you stay with
You mother.

Dominic
Man, they put her in the hospital.
She's still fighting with the railroad
Company for her pension.

Johnny
I hope it works out.

Dominic
Me too.

Johnny
Why not stay with your
Grandpa?

Dominic
I don't know man. I
Didn't think of that though.

Johnny
Yeah man. He loves you.
He'll take you in.

Dominic
He's old. Really old.

Johnny
He loves you man. Your
His family. It won't be
A problem.

Dominic
Yeah you right.

Ronnie
Listen, I'm gonna let you
Two love birds catch up.

Johnny
Right. See ya Ronnie.

Ronnie
Don't get weird on me.

Johnny
I'm already weird.

Ronnie
O.K. Well don't get any weirder.

Johnny
I'll try.

Ronnie leaves.

Dominic
He must be missing some marbles man.
I almost capped his ass.

Johnny
Man. You guys. Relax Dom.
Man.

Dominic
I hate racists man.

Johnny
Me too. Let's not talk about it
Anymore, huh?

Dominic
So what's going on?

Johnny
Just trying to make the Agency work.
Same old b.s.

Dominic
I thought you'd be rich by now.

Johnny
Me too.

Dominic
Well cheer up buddy boy.
I know it'll work out for you.
If I didn't, I wouldn't be your friend.

Johnny
What do you mean?

Dominic
If I thought you was a loser,
We wouldn't be hanging out.

Johnny
And we are hanging out Dom.
We are hanging out.

He slaps him five.

Cut to:

Exterior. Hollywood Blvd. Afternoon. Johnny is talking to the clown.

Johnny
What's your name?

Toby
Toby

Johnny
You need an agent?

Toby
Sure man.

Johnny
Let me take you picture.
As long as their taking mine…

Toby (blows a balloon)

Exterior. Afternoon. Further down the Blvd. Johnny enters into Interior of the Hollywood Bizarre Market, a local corner store. Rod, a phillipino is dressed In all white and singing.

Rod
Las Vegas… I'm here to stay
The city lights light up the day…

Johnny (sits down)
Got a cigarette?

Rod
No. I quit.

Johnny
You always say that Rod.
When are you really going to do it.

Rod
Never. Maybe tomorrow.
Who knows.

Johnny
Not me.

Rod
You like my song?

Johnny
Of course. I wouldn't
Be your agent if I didn't
Like your singing. Did you
Make that audition the
Other day?

Rod
It cost me forty dollars
Across town in the taxi.

Johnny
You didn't have to take a taxi.

Rod
What can I say. I'm a star.
There was a thousand people there.
They came from all over California.

Johnny
What did you think this was going to be easy?

Rod
I'm never going again.

Johnny
God you guys are terrible.

Rod
I'm serious. I don't like it.
They make me feel small.

Johnny
Well you have to consider
Yourself lucky to get
Called in the first place.

Rod
Half the town got called.

Johnny
That's how it goes Rod.

Rod rings up some customers.

Customer One
Can I get a pack of Camels?

Rod
Four fifty.

Customer One
Thanks.

Johnny
Well. You've been a lot of fun.
I'm going to get a hair cut.

Rod
See you soon.

Johnny
Thanks…

Interior. Danny's barbershop. Nadine is cutting his hair and Danny is at The counter. Afternoon.

Danny
I told you once.
I told you a thousand times.
He's my customer.

Nadine
Danny you're such a liar.
He came to me first you know it.

Danny
You can't be serious.
He's mine. You know it.

Nadine (singing and cutting)
Lie lie. Lie lie lie lie.

Danny
Man, she's crazy this one. I tell you.
The first time I saw her, I said she's crazy.

Johnny
Sounds like you're lovers.

Nadine (laughing)
Huh. Hardly.

Danny
I don't even like her.
I only let her cut hair because
She's good.

Nadine
Ah Danny, maybe there is hope for you.

Johnny
Thanks guys.

Nadine
You like it?

Johnny
I always like it. You guys are
The best.

Danny
Where's your Turkish friend?

Johnny
At home with the kids.
He gets a hair cut every ten years or so.

Danny
That's funny. Give him this card.
It's for a Turkish Cable channel.
He'll like it. It's a little expensive,
But it's all Turkish television.

Johnny
Wow. Thanks.

Danny
I'm serious. Have him call.

Johnny
I'll pass it along. Thanks guys.

Danny
Thanks.

Nadine
By bye.

Interior. The Office. Afternoon Johnny enters the lobby.

Johnny
Where's Manny?

Jessie
He's off today. It's
The weekend.
What are you doing here?

Johnny
Thought I'd catch up
On the filing. It's a
Real mess up there.
Boxes of pictures everywhere.

Jessie
Well I got to let you up.
The elevator is locked
Saturdays and Sundays.

Johnny
I didn't know that.

Jessie
Yes sir.

Johnny (walking over to the elevator with him)
You smoke grass Jessie?

Jessie
A little. Sometimes I go over
To my friends house and
Smoke up the street.

Johnny
Just don't tell me where he lives
Or I'll be over there everyday
And never get any work done.

Jessie
Don't worry. I won't tell you.

Johnny
Maybe if you're still around
Later we'll burn one.

Jessie
Just let me know.

Johnny
All right. Thanks

Elevator doors close and Johnny goes up.

Interior. Office on the 27th floor. Johnny opens the door. There are piles of Work on the floor.

Johnny
God it's hot up here.

Joe (walking buy into the kitchen)
They turn the air conditioner off on the Weekends.

Johnny
Hey Joe. What re you doing here?

Joe
I always work Saturdays.

Johnny
Really. Jeez. I rarely do.

Joe
Yeah. I have to keep up.

Johnny
Well I'll try to keep
The door closed and not bother you.

Joe
Thanks

Johnny closes the door and cranks the radio. Jimmy Hendrix is playing "Red House" Johnny starts to pull pictures. The phone rings.

Johnny
Evolve

Angela
What are you doing there?

Johnny
Working. Shocked?

Angela
Well, yeah. I didn't
Think you'd be there.

Johnny
What's up?

Angela
Just calling to confirm the
Mitsubishi. Two calls
In one week. You're
Jamming. Nobody ever
Did this good for me.
They all left me in the drawer.

Johnny
They were all stupid.
That's why I work for myself
In this business.

Angela
Well, thanks Johnny.

Johnny
You got it. Break a leg
As they say. In fact,
Break them both.

Angela
You're funny.

Johnny
And an arm, an elbow,
Whatever it takes.

Angela
Stop it. You're cracking me up.

Johnny
Oh god. Don't go there.

Angela
Well good afternoon.

Johnny
Ciao.

Angela
Ciao. You're hysterical.

She hangs up. So does Johnny. Jessie enters.

Jessie
How's it going?

Johnny
Ready for that break I guess.

Jessie
Me too.

Cut to:

The stairway behind the building.

Jessie
The good thing about this place,
You know what that is?

Johnny
What's that.

Jessie (passing it)
Here, stay inside.

A helicopter passes overhead.

Jessie
There's no camera down here.

Johnny
Jessie, you're a good security man.
Want to smoke another one?

Jessie
No. I got to get back to work.

Johnny
Me too. I'm going across
The street to the seven eleven to
Get a hot dog first.

Jessie
If I'm not there, just tell the
Other guard to let you up.

Johnny
O.K. Thanks.

Interior. Building lobby. Johnny re-enters. They are mopping the floors.

Johnny
Can you let me back up?

The guard nods and brings the keys.

Johnny re-enters his office and closes the door. He sits down and looks around
The room. The place is a disaster, pictures everywhere.
He unpacks his hot dog and eats. Pops the soda can. Mike enters.

Mike
Hey what are you doing here?

Johnny
Just some filing.

Mike
It's the weekend. You
Should at least be nailing broads up here
Or something.

Johnny
Good luck. What are you doing here?

Mike
Just picking up some papers.

Johnny
Have a nice weekend. What's
Left of it anyway.

Mike
Same to you guy.

Interior. Korean massage parlor. Johnny is in a chair watching a base ballgame with Mark.

Mark
This is fantastic. Who would have thought
A place like this could exist downtown.

Johnny
I know. It's incredible isn't it?

Mark
Totally.

Johnny
I love it.

Mark
Louisa tells me if I don't stop
Smoking pot she's divorcing me.

Johnny
Better watch out. She probably
Means it.

Mark
She does. Dude, it's so heavy.

Johnny
We should smoke a last joint
Then to celebrate your not smoking.

Mark
I agree.

Interior. Mark's car on the freeway. They pull off and drive through a Taco Bell.

Mark
Four enchiladas and
Two pepsi's.
You want anything else Johnny?

Johnny
Nah. That's fine.

Mark
See the thing is. I got kids.
I'm all grown up now.
We get to a certain age
Where we have to put that
Stuff behind us.

Johnny
It's true. Thank god I'm
Still a kid.

Mark
Dude!!!

Johnny
Can I tell you the truth?

Mark
Totally.

Johnny
I think I like it too much to stop.
I don't know, maybe one day.

He gets out of the car in front of a starbucks.

Mark
Well, think about it anyway.

Johnny
I will. I'll think about it.

Mark
Seriously.

Johnny
Seriously.

Johnny enters the Starbucks and Kevin Spacey is in the corner sipping a coffee. They look at each other kind of strangely and Johnny gets in line.

Counter Girl
Can I help you.

Johnny
Small coffee.

Counter Girl
Regular or decaf?

Johnny
Regular.

He gets his coffee and walks over to the market. Eddie is a big fat Mexican guarding the door.

Johnny
You always look so happy.

Eddie (smiles a bigger smile)

Johnny
How do you do it Eddie.
How do you stay happy.

Eddie
I don't pay attention.

Johnny
You're a wise man Eddie.
A wise man.

Johnny enters the market and grabs a bottle of Chianti and some cheese with crackers And a grapefruit and some other items. Rashif is the Persian at the counter.

Rashif
I saw your friend the other day.

Johnny
Oh yeah. Which one?

Rashif
The one with an accent.

Johnny
That's my neighbor.

Rashif
He owes me three dollars.

Johnny
I'll tell him.

Exterior. The apartment building. Robin Banks is checking his mail.

Robin
You know what Freddy did to me
The other day?

Johnny
Hello Robin.

Robin
Hello Johnny. You know
What the Freddy did to me
The other day?

Johnny
What?

Robin
I wake up in the morning to
Get the paper and I come
Downstairs and as soon as
I get through the side door he's
In my face asking me where
I'm going? I said none of
Your damn business you stupid
Ass. Can you believe that.

Johnny
Robin, to tell you the truth,
Sometimes I get up in the
Morning and I don't even
Get out of my own apartment
Before he's grilling me.
He's crazy. Haven't you
Figured that out yet?

Robin
Well I swear if that son of
A bitch does that one more
Time I'm filing a complaint.

Johnny
Don't worry. He will.

Robin
I have to get some dinner
Before I go on.

Johnny
See ya.

Robin goes out the front.

Freddy (coming down the stairs)
Johnny your mother called.
She says she's paying your rent.
Your lucky this month. You
Know, your mother she loves you.

Johnny
I know Freddy.

Freddy
Who was that girl who rang the other day.
What a pussy. I would love to fuck her
All day if my wife wouldn't kill me.

Johnny
She would.

Freddy
I know.

Johnny
Anyway, she had the wrong number I guess.
I didn't see her. She wasn't for me.
It was just to drive you nuts.

Freddy
I see.

Johnny
Sorry to disappoint you like that.
Talk to you later.

Johnny climbs the stairs.

Freddy
You want me to come fix your bathtub tomorrow.

Johnny
Finally.

Freddy
You know, there are a bunch of rocks
In it. You have to take them out.

Johnny
I know. They're to help me relax.

Freddy
I hope they don't come through the floor.

Johnny
Freddy you're a nut.

Climbs the stairs and turns.
Fade out.

Evolve

Episode III

By Jonathan Elliott

Interior. Market at Night. Johnny enters sleepy eyed and Rashif is at the counter. Gonzales is laughing in the corner.

Johnny
Man, it feels like I've been asleep for
Days.

Rashif
Haven't seen you since the weekend.

Johnny
I know. I've been catching up
On my sleeping. Where's Eddie?

Gonzales
He died.

Johnny
Huh?

Gonzales
Suicide.

Johnny
Suicide?

Gonzales
His girlfriend broke
Up with him and
He shot her. Then,
He went to jail and
Shot himself eighteen times.

Johnny
How do you shoot
Yourself eighteen times?

Gonzales
Talented I guess.

Johnny

I guess. Jesus.

Rashif
Yeah. It's sad.

Johnny
Wow. Worse then that.

Rashif (rings up his order)
That's eight dollars thirty five cents.

Johnny
Yeah. Here. Thanks.

Interior. Office. 27th floor. Johnny is on the phone. Afternoon.

Johnny
Yeah it's a shame. God.
I was going to put him in
Commercials. What
A nasty business. How do you
Stay happy Danny?

Danny (v.o)
You want to know the secret
Johnny?

Johnny
I guess that's why I called.
Tell me.

Danny (v.o)
The secret is that so much
Fucked up bullshit
Happens to the talent
In this business, the only
Thing you can do is not
Give a shit.

Johnny
Wow. Is that how you keep going.

Danny (v.o)
Uh huh.

Johnny
Man. I'm too sensitive for this
business I think.

Danny (v.o)
You'll be all right Johnny.

Johnny
Thanks Danny.

Danny (v.o)
I gotta go. Goodbye.
I love you.

Johnny
I love you too. Goodbye.

Amy enters. She is drop dead gorgeous and knocks before entering.

Johnny
Hello?

Amy
Hi. I'm Amy. Jim sent me over.

Johnny
I remember. He called.

Amy
What exactly do you do here?

Johnny
At this point, I'm not sure.
I'm just in a bad mood.
Have a seat.

Amy
Thank you.

Johnny
Where you from?

Amy
Detroit, Michigan.

Johnny
You're beautiful.

Amy
Thanks.

Johnny
Did you bring pictures?

Amy
Yes. I have a few.

Johnny (looks through them, some are nudes)
I don't think this is Sears or JC Penny's material,
But some are decent.

Amy
I'm still working on my looks.

Johnny
Great. Why don't you leave me a few
Of your duplicates and I'll see
What I can do?

Amy
That's it?

Johnny
Yeah. Oh yeah. I almost forgot.
Sorry it's been a long day already.

Amy
It's only ten o'clock.

Johnny
Yeah. A long day.
What's your phone number?

Amy
Why?

Johnny
So I can call you in the middle of
The night and breathe deep.
What do you think? In case
There is work.

Amy
You can call Jim.

Johnny
Sometimes I can't reach him
And the calls come quickly.

Amy
Oh. I see. My cell number is
617-290-3421.

Johnny (typing)
Got it. Thanks.

Amy
Have a good day.

Johnny
You too. Bye.

Amy
Goodbye.

Interior. Hallway of the office. Johnny walks her out and looks over at the reception station. There is a new girl at the desk.

Johnny
What happened to Jorlynn?

Gwen
She left.

Johnny
Jeez. She was great.
God I'm going to miss her.
Well, nice to meet you.
I'm Johnny at Evolve.
I run the Talent Agency.

I'm the one who is going to
Run you ragged.

Gwen
Nice to meet you. I'm Gwen.

Johnny
You know, you look a lot like
Oprah Winfrey. I don't
Mean that as an insult or anything.
I mean, she makes millions
A year. Ever thought of
Doing commercials?

Gwen (giggling)
Stop it.

Johnny
No. I'm serious. Let me
Take your picture at least.

Gwen
Hmmm. O.k.

Johnny runs back to his office and brings a camera back.

Johnny
This thing is fantastic. It's
Digital. I can take a picture
And print it in minutes.

Gwen
What's my best side?

Johnny
Just from the front.

Gwen
O.K.

Johnny snaps the picture.

Johnny
Perfect.

Sue walks out, she is a smaller Korean lady.

Sue
Can I talk to you a second?

Johnny
Yeah. What's up?

They walk into the operations room. Mr. Kim is reading papers and Theresa is trying to type.

Sue
You're rent is due. Today.

Johnny
Oh yeah. Jeez. I almost
Forgot. Let me get a check.
Hold on.

He runs out and returns.

Johnny
I've just had so much on my mind
This weekend. I completely
Forgot.

Sue
That's o.k.

Johnny
Mr. Kim, you ever thought
Of getting into movies?

Mr. Kim
Nah.

Johnny
Why not?

Mr. Kim
Too much b.s.

Johnny
You'd make a great
Korean detective.

Mr. Kim
The truth is, I once
Wanted to act.

Johnny
I'll take your picture.

Mr. Kim
That o.k. I'd rather not.

Johnny
I wish I could change your
Mind.

Mr. Kim
You can't.

Johnny
Theresa, good morning.

Theresa
Hey.

Johnny
I never seen you type before.

Theresa
Me neither. I have to
Type this letter to the
Court. Can you help me.

Johnny
Sure.

Theresa
You serious?

Johnny
Sure I am. I'm a great
Typist. I used to do it
All day.

Theresa
Oh Johnny I'm so glad.
I can't tell you. This saves me.

A walkie talkie voice comes over v.o "Theresa, they need you in parking"

Theresa (punching the walkie talkie)
I'll be right down.

Johnny
It'll be done by the time
You get back.

Theresa
Thanks Johnny.

Interior. Johnny's office. The sun is sinking and jazz is playing on the stereo. Desire enters in shorts and a t shirt.

Desiree
Hey there.

Johnny
Hey. What are you doing
Here so late.

Desiree
I thought I'd wait for
The traffic to die before
I took the ride down here.

Johnny
Well I'm glad you made it.
I'm almost out of pictures.

Desiree
Yeah, I figured. I hope
You can use these.

Johnny
I can.

Desiree
Well, I haven't been getting many calls
Lately.

Johnny
I know. Maybe we should change pictures.

Desiree
Don't tell me that. I just did
Three hundred more of the old ones.
They were expensive too.

Johnny
I'm sure they'll be fine.
It's just slow.

Desiree
All right. Anything else?

Johnny
No. That's it.

Desiree
O.K. Talk to you later.

Johnny
The sooner the better huh.

Desiree
You said it.

Johnny picks up the phone and dials Reggie.

Johnny
What did you say about me to Monkey Brothers?

Reggie
What do you mean?

Johnny
They never call me.
When they do I get like
One time.

Reggie
Oh god. I think they're
Mad at me.

Johnny
Why.

Reggie
They had a party at that bar.
You know, Strathmore's.
Anyway, I didn't know it was
Their birthday and I ran around
And put Danny's stickers
Everywhere. They were really
Mad at me. It's probably
Better not to know me at this point
Johnny.

Johnny
God. Really.

Reggie
I swear.

Johnny
Man Reggie, you sure
Have a way of screwing things up.

Reggie
Oh you are just too kind Johnny.

A pause.

Reggie
By the way. I have some bad news.

Johnny
What?

Reggie
Tanya died.

Johnny
What? You're joking.

Reggie.
No suicide. I swear this
Is serious. We buried her
In Long Beach yesterday.

Johnny

God. Why didn't you guys tell me?

Reggie
It just happened so fast. We had
So many people to call.

Johnny
Man.

Reggie
I know.

Johnny
O.K. I got to go.
You just ruined my night.

Reggie
I'm sorry.

Johnny
Me too Reggie. Me too.

Reggie
Talk to you later.
Be square or be around.

Johnny
Yeah. Later Reggie.

Johnny puts some final packages together and leaves.

Exterior. Train station. He counts his change and all the machines are broken.
Sound of an oncoming train in the distance.

Johnny (starts to run)
Man.

He boards the train and gets off at the next station. He runs up the stairs and
Gets to the machine. Two policemen are waiting for him.

Officer Chavez
Can I see your ticket?

Johnny
You know, I tried to buy one at

The Vermont stop and I couldn't.

Officer #2
What's your name?

Johnny
Johnny. Johnny Lee.

Officer Chavez.
Well, we have a list here of
People with warrants for
Traffic tickets and your
Name is on it. What should we do?

Johnny
You know I called the station and
Asked about that ticket and they said everything was
Fine with it.

Officer #2
You called the station? They said that?

Officer Chavez
Well maybe this is just an old list.

Johnny
It must be. I swear I called.

Officer #2
We're still writing you a ticket.
Try to take care of it, o.k?

Johnny
I'll do my best Officer.
Thanks.

Exterior. Front of the Apartment. Johnny is talking to Freddy.

Freddy
What?

Johnny

Yeah.

Freddy
When did she die?

Johnny
A couple of days ago
They said.

Freddy
Let me see her picture.

Johnny (pulls one out of his briefcase)
This is the only one I have left.
Don't get your fingers on it.

Freddy
Her. I used to see her. She came over once.

Johnny
I know. She hated my place.

Freddy
She had great legs. I remember. I
Wanted to fuck her so bad.

Johnny
You say that about everybody Freddy.
You say that about the mailman.
Freddy
Let me tell you I'm not a fag.

Johnny
Freddy I met your kids.
I know you're not a fag.

Interior. Johnny's apartment. He starts cleaning the dirty laundry off the floor. He straightens out the room and grabs a roll of toilet paper. He writes "Welcome Home soldier" and sticks it on the door. He sits on the couch and waits. The phone rings.

Sylvestar (v.o)
Hello Johnnythunk.

Johnny
Hello Private. Where are you?

Sylvestar
I'm coming into the train
Station.

Johnny
What's your estimated time?

Sylvestar
I don't know. Maybe fifteen minutes.
A half hour if I stop for liquor and
Cigarettes.

Johnny
I'll wait.

He sits down and plays the guitar a bit. The door finally rings. He opens it. Sylvestar is standing in the door, nearly tears in his eyes.

Sylvestar
Hello Johnny

Johnny
Come on in. Put your things here.

Sylvestar
O.K.

Johnny
What's wrong. You look upset.

Sylvestar
Not at all.

Johnny
What is it?

Sylvestar
It's just. Since I got back
From the war, nobody has
Ever done that for me before.
It was really nice.

Johnny
Hell, it's just toilet paper.
Just some toilet paper.

Sylvestar
No, it's more than that.
It's a recognition.

Johnny
What, that you're not crazy.
I've got news for you, you're
Not crazy.

Sylvestar
Well it sure didn't seem
That way these last three months.

Johnny
I'm sorry for that. They had to
Make you into an imbecile to make
Me look stupid. It's just business.
That's why I wrote the letter for you.

Sylvestar (laughing loud)
It sure worked.

Johnny
Yeah. It had the Agency address on it
And logo on the letterhead. They
Knew it was good.

Sylvestar
I'm glad you sent it.

Johnny
Yeah. They called me a couple
Of times and did some
Phone interviews before
You were released. It was
Pretty hairy there for awhile.
I'm only glad to help.

Sylvestar (sits in the chair, lights a cigarette)
It was fantastic.

Johnny
Yeah. Well a lot of stuff has happened this
Week besides that. There's a tent, a blanket
And this air mattress for you, I knew your
Back was out so I got it for you. There's
A pump for it in the kitchen.

Sylvestar
You sure put it together.

Johnny
Oh yeah. Put it together.

Sylvestar
The girl next door.

Johnny
Yeah?

Sylvestar
She's really cute.

Johnny
She has a boyfriend.
He's a vet like you.

Sylvestar
I saw him. He's a nigger.

Johnny
Huh?

Sylvestar
He's a nigger. Just like me.
He shits and spits and
Eats and drinks just like me.

Johnny
Try to keep it down, will ya?
What have you been here three minutes
And we're already in a war?

Sylvestar (laughing, smoking)
All right.

Johnny

Man. What happened at the last place.
In Berkeley?

Sylvestar
She's still suing. It's incredible
Johnny. She served me notice
By posting a bulletin over the mailbox.

Johnny
God these guys are vicious.

Sylvestar
You said that right.

Johnny
I'm going around the corner
For some Chinese food.
Want anything?

Sylvestar
Nah. I'm o.k.

Johnny
Hang on. I'll be back in a second.

Johnny exits.

Interior. Doughnut shop and Chinese food place on the corner. Late afternoon.

Johnny
You got any fried chicken?

Girl
No. It's not ready yet.

Johnny
O.K. Let me get the fried rice
And some of the teriyaki chicken.

Girl
Anything to drink.

Johnny
All right. You talked me into it.
Let me have a small coke.

Girl
Three dollars twenty five cents.

Johnny
Here you go. Where's the guy
Who is usually here?

Girl
He works at night now.

Johnny
God he's an asshole.

Girl
That's my brother.

Johnny
You poor girl. He's really mean.

Girl
Only to white people.

Johnny
Really

Girl
Yeah.

Johnny
See you tomorrow.

Interior. The apartment. Sylvestar is spreading out the blankets and getting comfortable on the bed.

Johnny
You like it.

Sylvestar
It's really something.

Johnny
Yeah I know. I got
Some extra chicken if you want.

Sylvestar

How much was it?

Johnny
A little over three dollars.

Sylvestar
Man. That's really fantastic.

Johnny
Yeah. They're refugees. Part
Of the family is Korean, the other
Half is Cambodian. They
Came together to escape the war and
Started the doughnut store.
They make everything.

Sylvestar
It's great.

Johnny
I know. I'm going to promote
Them in my book.

Sylvestar
You should.

Johnny
Yeah. They're really good.

They eat together.

Johnny
It's good to see you.

Sylvestar
Yeah.

Johnny
It's been awhile.

Sylvestar
Yeah. Three years.
You really beat me in that last game.
What was it called?

Johnny

Empyre.

Sylvestar
Yeah. Man, if Joe hadn't of come along
And left you his armies
I would have clobbered you.

Johnny
I know. I got lucky. Have you talked to Marco?

Sylvestar (laughing)
Last thing was he left his teeth
On the floor of my apartment.
Haven't seen him since.

Johnny
God that's ugly.

Sylvestar
Yeah. I guess he didn't like em.

Johnny
Wow. Man. Listen I got to be
Up early for work tomorrow
So I'm going to sleep.
If you want you can stop by the
Office and help out.

Sylvestar
Yeah. I don't know. I'll
Think about it.

Johnny
All you do is take the train.
It's simple. I'll leave you
A map.

Sylvestar
I'll see. I'm really tired too.

Johnny
Yeah. I'll bet.

Johnny gets into bed and starts off to sleep.

Johnny
Goodnight.

Sylvestar
Goodnight.

Interior. Temple Street Traffic Court.

Johnny
Guard, can you help me?

Guard
Is this a traffic related matter?

Johnny
It's a commuter subway ticket.

Guard
Wait in line over there.

Johnny (enters the line)
God this is long. How long
Have you been waiting?

Man in Line
Twenty minutes or so.

Johnny
Man.

Time passes by. Johnny gets to the front.

Johnny
Yeah. I got this subway ticket.
It has your address down here at the bottom.
How do I find the Court?

Lady at Booth
This is the wrong address.

Johnny
What do you mean. It's right down here

At the bottom.

Lady at Booth
That Court has moved to Bouchet Street.

Johnny
Where is that?

Lady at Booth
You'll have to find out. I don't really know.

Johnny
You know, I have a business to run.
I can't run around downtown all day.

Lady at Booth
I'm sorry. Next please.

Interior. Train. Exterior. Streets downtown. Johnny catches a cab.

Johnny
Can you take me to the Court at Bouchet Street?

Cabbie
I think so.

They arrive. Johnny enters. Gets through the security gates.

Guard
Court is closed for the day.

Johnny
What? What time does it open after lunch?

Guard
It doesn't. You have to come back in the morning.

Cut to:

Bush's speech about frivolous lawsuits.

Interior. Psychologist's office. Afternnon.

Doctor Sammy
You have to let go. Let go of it Johnny.

Johnny
Doctor. Can I be honest with you?

Doctor Sammy
Only if it doesn't hurt my feelings.

Johnny
I'm suing the piss out of them.

Doctor Sammy
That hurts my feelings.

Johnny
Why?

Doctor Sammy
Because you need to be getting on with
Your life Johnny. Not dwelling in the
Past.

Johnny
Well, the thing is Doc, they won't
Let me get on with my life.

Doctor Sammy
I don't understand what you mean.

Johnny
Maybe we should pick this up next time.
I'm a little tired today.

Doctor Sammy
O.K. But I want you to think about what
I've said.

Johnny
I won't.

Exterior. Nightclub at night in Hollywood. A crowd of people are waiting outside. Mike is an Iranian doorman who works the crowd.

Johnny
Mike. Hey…

Mike
What's up?

Johnny
Just me tonight.

Mike
All right. Go on in.

Johnny
You're the best Mikee. Thanks.

Interior. Club. Johnny gets to the bar and meets Trish.

Johnny
Hello.

Trish
Hi.

Johnny
What's your name?

Trish
Trish.

Johnny
Do you model?

Trish.
A little. For playbody.

Johnny
That's great. Can I
Give you a card?

Trish
What do you do?

Johnny
I'm a Talent Agent.

Trish
What sort?

Johnny
Commercials. Television.
Sometimes print.

Trish
O.K.

Johnny
Call me

Trish (smiles, nods, walks away)

Exterior. The back area of the club. Johnny is on a couch talking with Tara.

Johnny
I haven't seen you in weeks.

Tara
Yeah.

Johnny
You alone?

Tara
No. I came with a bunch of friends.

Johnny
Great.

They sit together for awhile in silence.

Tara
I should go.

Johnny
I know.

Tara
Bye.

Johnny
Bye.

Interior. Los Angeles Superior Court. Johnny is standing before a Judge.

Vic
Mr. Lee, let me ask you,
What have you done to serve these
Defendants?

Johnny
It's all in my Proof of Service
Your honor.

Vic (checking the computer)
I don't see a proof of service.
When did you file it?

Johnny
Last Thursday your honor.

Vic
Why doesn't it appear?

Johnny
Probably they didn't type it in yet.
I have a conformed copy your honor.

Vic
Let me see it.

Johnny
Here it is your honor.

Vic
Don't hand it to me.
Give it to the assistant over there.
She'll hand it to me.

Johnny
All right.

Vic
What I see here is a narrative.
Now I have two choices.
I can give you more time

To serve these defendants
And sanction you or
Dismiss this case. It's your
Choice.

Johnny
How much is the sanction
Your honor?

Vic
Seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Johnny
In that case. I guess
You'll have to dismiss.

Vic
Fine. I am dismissing
This case with prejudice.

Bangs the gavel.

Exterior. Nightclub. Night. A new doorman.

Johnny
Where's Mike?

Ridley
He got shot.

Johnny
What?

Ridley
Yeah. The other night.

Johnny
What happened?

Ridley
He got involved in a jewelry heist
And it went bad. He went to fence
The goods and they shot him

Five times in the chest.

Johnny
Jeez.

Johnny walks away. Heads down Hollywood Blvd. Gets to Graumann's and Walks around the stars names all in concrete. He looks up to the statue Of Buddha.

Tourists crowd the avenue still.

v.o. "Who wants to go bowling…?"
v.o. "maybe Saturday… that's out of context…"
v.o. "great. Great show…"
v.o. "that's a great philosophy. How about Warren Grahm.
That's a green match up right there…"
v.o. "that's good."
v.o. "let's just set up for another parable…"
v.o. "yeah.. yeah.. actually…"

Fade out.

End Titles Should Read " Evolve Talent Agency was bankrupt in 2002.
Johnny was sent to a mental institution
In the Fifth year of the Bush Administration."